

VIRGINIA WELDON KELLY NEWS SERVICE

Approved For Release 2000/08/03 : CIA-RDP75-00001F  
(Washington, D. C.)

VIRGINIA WELDON KELLY NEWS SERVICE

3830 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Dear "Red",  
This is a copy of  
the story, I mentioned  
when we met at the  
Hulicia Embassy.  
Best wishes,  
WVK.

COPYRIGHT

By

Virginia Weldon Kelly

Representative Craig Hosmer (R., Calif.), Senior House Republican on the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, asserts that "President Johnson was wise in designating Admiral William F. "Red" Raborn, Jr. to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. The United States could not get a better man."

Representative Hosmer said, "The United States owes a great debt to the retiring CIA Director John McCone who has performed distinguished service. I hope some of the things he has done can be made public in our lifetime but this is unlikely for the matters involve national security.

"John McCone was Chairman of the AEC. I had great confidence in him then. My regard for him has grown even greater during his CIA service.

"I have known Red Raborn since 1955 when the then CNO, Admiral Arleigh Burke brought him to head the Polaris Project.

"Red developed the single manager concept which is now used by all the services.

"For our security it was necessary that the submarine weapon be speeded up. There were thousands of parts which had not even been invented and which had to be designed and manufactured to be ready at the right time to prevent lagging and to keep the program 'level'.

"Red had an amazing ability to supervise thousands of men... The managerial

system he evolved was known as PERT (Program Evaluation Review Technique) continuing analysis of all aspects of progress which promptly showed any errors of logging."

Admiral Raborn was Deputy CMO for Development when he retired in 1963 to become Vice President for Management of Aero-Jet General. Since then, he and Representative Hosmer have continued their friendship because Aero-Jet has government commitments.

Representative Hosmer said that one or two columnists have written that Admiral Raborn has had little experience in intelligence techniques and processes. "But", said Hosmer, "in Red was Director of the Special Projects Agency which produced Polaris, he was responsible for maintaining secrecy and for studying foreign advances in nuclear weapons".

At that time President Johnson was Chairman of the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee which held hearings on missile programs. The then Senator Johnson was impressed with Admiral Raborn's ability and affable personality.

Mr. Hosmer said, "The Admiral plays his cards well. He knows when to bluff, when to come on strong, and when to take chances."

"Most of the CIA's activities are highly secret. It is imperative that the CIA Director be a man in whom Congress has complete trust."

Admiral Raborn was one of eight children. Born in Decatur, Texas, June 8, 1905, he was reared in Oklahoma. He graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1928.

At the time of Pearl Harbor, he was a Naval aviator. Later, he served as Executive Officer in the USS Hancock in the Iwo Jima and other campaigns. He was awarded the Silver Star.

In the past months, several men have been discussed for the post of CIA Director. They include John T. Conner, now Commerce Secretary; Nicholas deB. Katzenbach, who fledged up from Deputy to become Attorney General; Ambassador Maxwell Taylor; Deputy Defense Secretary Cyrus Vance; Navy Secretary Paul H. Nitze; and former Deputy Defense Secretary Roswell Gilpatric.

Secretary McNamara said Mr. Vance could not be spared from his present job.

The others are not popular with some committee chairmen and other senior members of Congress.

The law specifies that either the Director or Deputy Director of CIA must be a civilian.

The Deputy Director-designate is Richard M. Helms, a longtime intelligence specialist with the CIA who has been Deputy Director for Operations.

Mr. McCone is understood to have recommended that he be named CIA Director.